

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please amend the drawings in the above-referenced application by substituting the formal drawings submitted on February 19, 2004 with the enclosed Replacement Sheets, submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(d).

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is for currently filed patent application number 10/648,058, filed on August 26, 2003. This amendment makes changes to the form, not substance, of the formal drawings submitted on February 19, 2004. This amendment corrects errors in the formal drawings. Further, these changes are consistent with the specification of the above-identified patent application.

Regarding Figs. 1, 2 and 4, currently no amendments are being made. Regarding Fig. 3, a section line 5-5 has been added to clarify from where the view shown in Fig. 5 is taken. Regarding Figs. 5 and 6, horizontal member 116 was previously shown in the same plane as the horizontal members 102 and 104 of the web adjuster 100. However, in order for the web adjuster 100 to operate properly and lock the seat belt webbing portions 132 and 134 in place, the horizontal member 116 must be able to slide over the vertical members 106 and 108, as shown in Fig. 4. In Figs. 5 and 6 as originally filed, the vertical members 106 and 108 are incorrectly shown in the same plane as the horizontal members 102 and 104. Therefore, Figs. 5 and 6 have been amended to show the proper location of horizontal member 116, which is offset from the plane created by the horizontal members 102 and 104. The amended drawings now show the ability of the horizontal member 116

to slide freely over the vertical members 106 and 108, as clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 4 as originally filed, and as disclosed in the specification as originally filed.

The specification as originally filed discloses throughout that the horizontal member 116 is able to slide freely over the vertical members 106 and 108. Specifically, on page 7 at lines 21-22, the specification provides that “[t]he c-shaped ends 120 and 122 [of horizontal member 116] allow the horizontal member 116 to slide freely over the vertical members 106 and 108, as shown in the drawings.” Further, on page 11 at lines 3-6, the specification provides that “[i]t will be appreciated that the ability of horizontal member 116 to slide freely along vertical members 106 and 108 is critical to the ability of web adjuster 100 to be easily adjusted when in the position illustrated in FIG. 6.”

Therefore, the current drawing amendments conform to the specification as originally filed and no new matter is being introduced.


Separate papers proposing red-line corrections to Figs. 3, 5 and 6 entitled Annotated Marked-Up Drawings are provided herewith in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(d)(1). Also enclosed are Replacement Sheets incorporating the changes in anticipation of approval of the amendments proposed herein.

These amendments are provided to clarify and further define the scope of the present invention, and are not presented in response to a notice or rejection. Furthermore, nothing in this amendment is believed to introduce new matter. Examination of the present application as amended is respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone to address any outstanding matters concerning the present application.

No fees are believed to be necessary, however, should any fees be deemed required, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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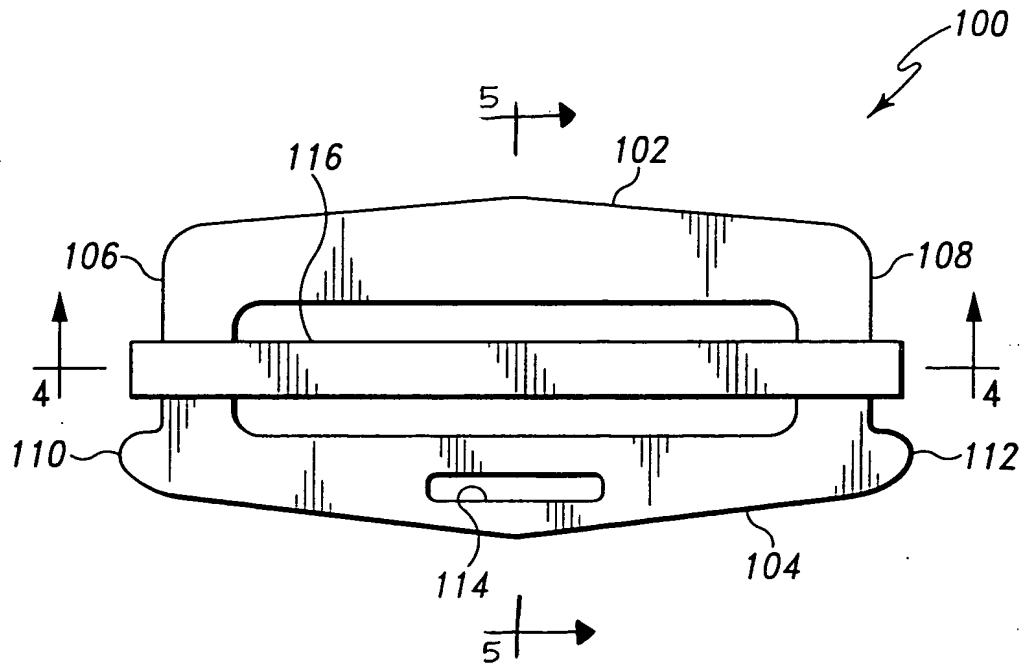


Fig. 3

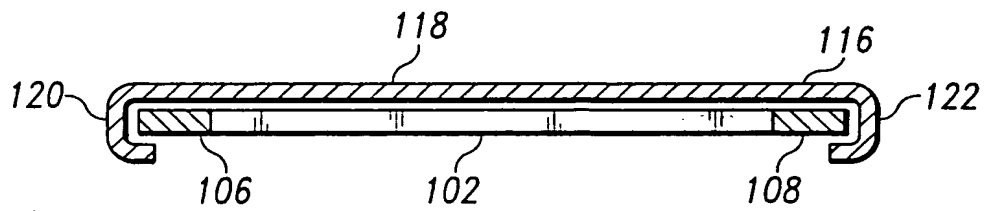


Fig. 4

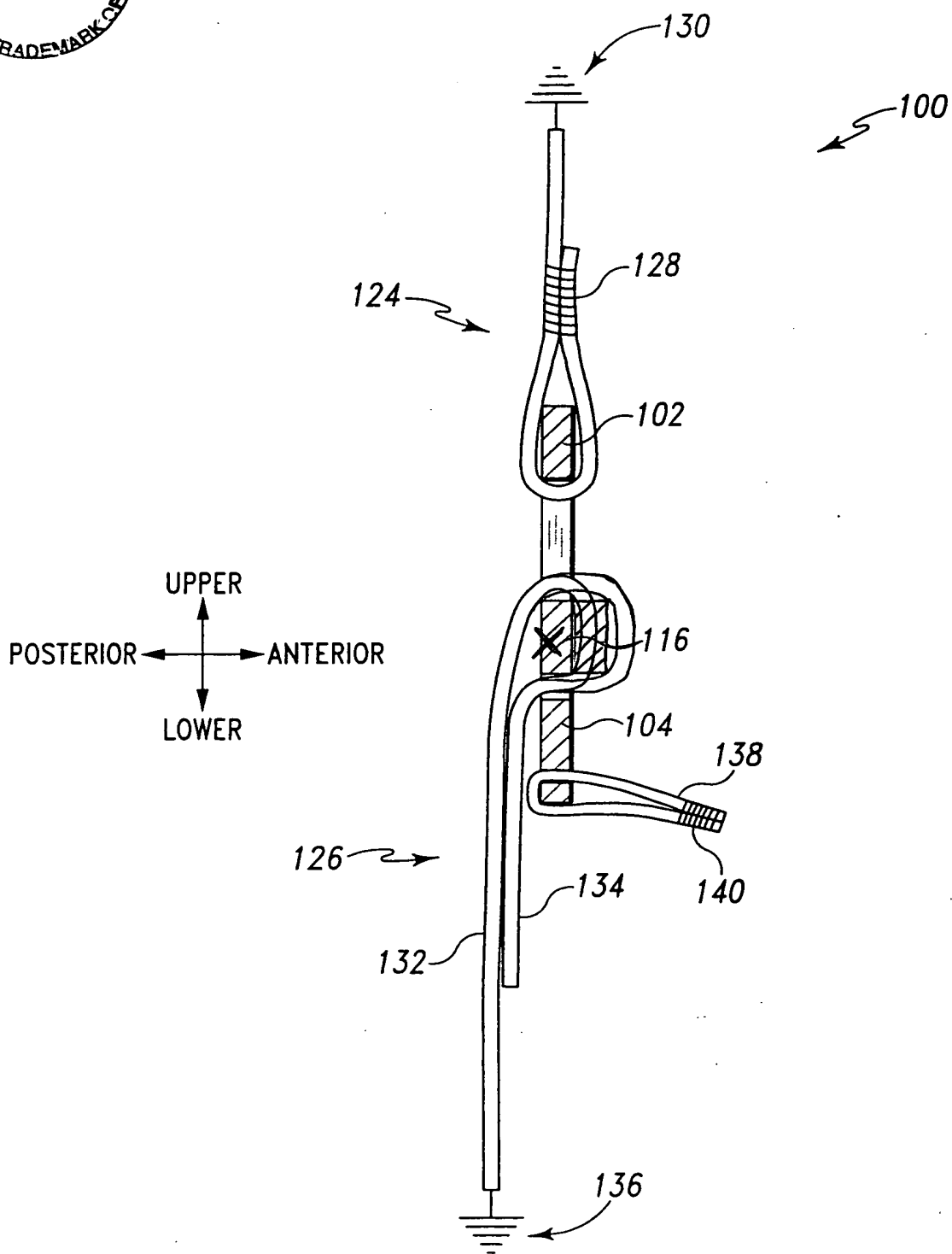


Fig. 5

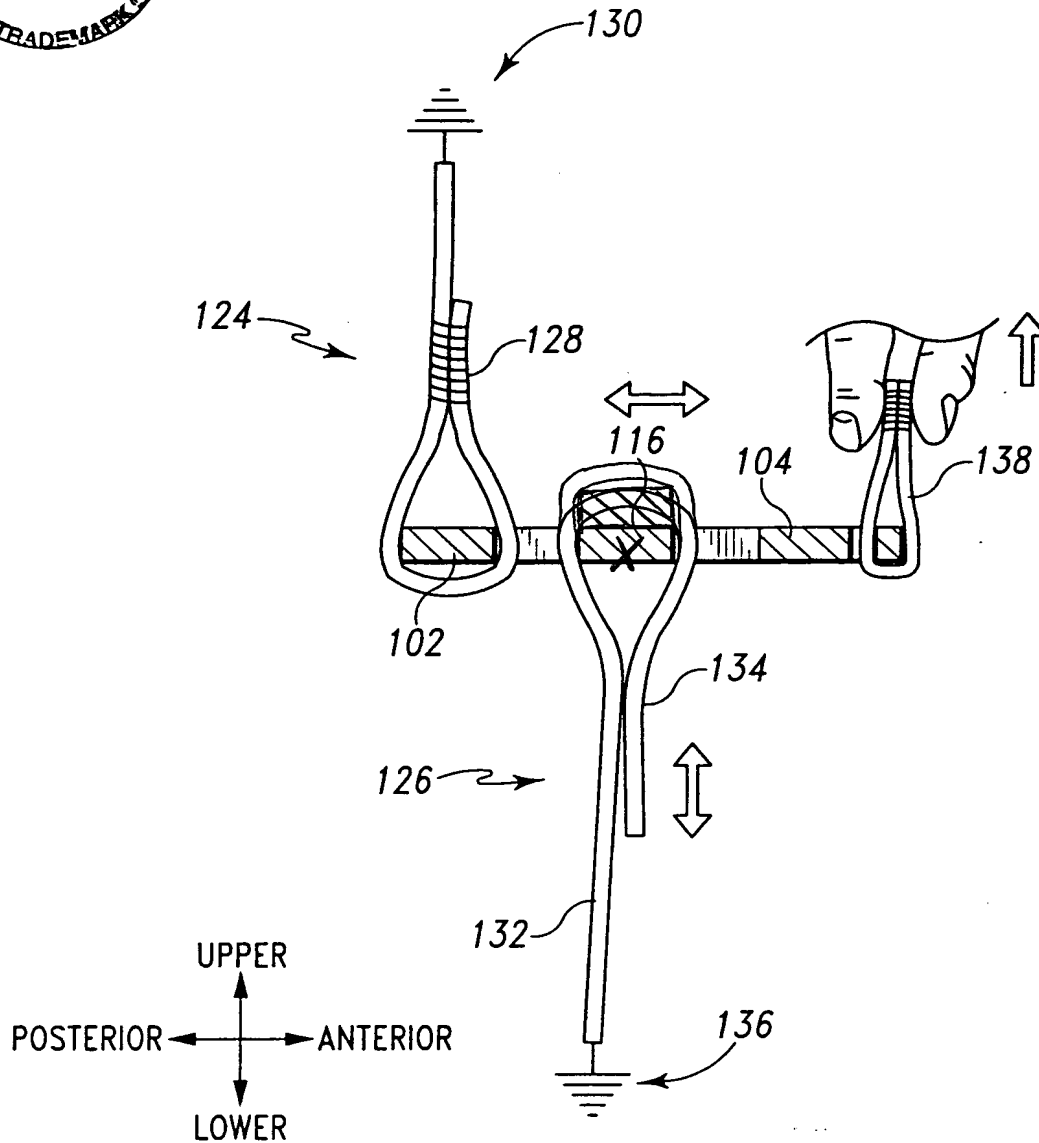


Fig. 6